



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

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Memorandum

Date: October 18, 1999

To: Mary Nichols, Secretary
The Resources Agency

Bill Lyons, Secretary
Department of Food and Agriculture

From: Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

Subject: Agricultural Mitigation Measures

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) submitted comments on CALFED's draft Programmatic EIS/EIR. A number of the comments are related to mitigation for agricultural land use impacts. These issues are similar to those raised previously by CDFA. In addition to CDFA, comparable comments were submitted by others such as the California Farm Bureau Federation. I want to be sure that CALFED's responses to these comments are consistent with state agricultural mitigation policy.

We are scheduled to send the first administrative draft "Response to Comments" document to the CALFED agencies for their review November 26, 1999. In order to meet the November 26 release date, we must complete our internal work no later than November 16, 1999. I am aware that the state has begun to discuss the development of an agricultural mitigation policy and as you know, I support the decision to develop this state policy outside of CALFED. The agricultural mitigation policy will fit prominently into CALFED's responses to a number of comments as such, it is important that we have a policy discussed and approved in the appropriate forums as soon as possible.

If CALFED can be of assistance in the refinement or discussion of these issues please let me know.

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
• Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration